

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 948.23

new marketing policy because of changes in the demand and supply situation with respect to potatoes. The committee shall publicly announce the submission of each such marketing policy report and copies thereof shall be available at the committee's office for inspection by any producer or any handler. In determining each such marketing policy the committee shall give due consideration to the following:

(1) Supply of potatoes by grade, size, quality, and maturity in the respective area, in the production area, and in other areas;

(2) Market prices for fresh potatoes, including grower, shipping point, and terminal market prices by grade, size, and quality in different packs or in different containers;

(3) Market prices for potatoes in other outlets, including growers' and other market price levels by grade, size, and quality;

(4) The trend and level of consumer income;

(5) Establishing and maintaining such orderly marketing conditions for potatoes as will be in the public interest; and

(6) Other relevant factors.

§ 948.21 Recommendations for regulations.

An area committee upon complying with the requirements of § 948.20 may recommend regulations, or modifications, suspension or termination thereof, to the Secretary whenever it finds that such regulations as provided for in this subpart will tend to effectuate the declared policies of the act.

§ 948.22 Issuance of regulations.

(a) The Secretary shall limit by regulation the handling of potatoes whenever he finds from recommendations and information submitted by an area committee, or from other available information, that such regulation would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act. Such regulation may:

(1) Limit the handling of particular grades, sizes, qualities, or maturities of any or all varieties of potatoes, or any combination of the foregoing during any period.

(2) Limit the handling of particular grades, sizes, qualities, or maturities of

potatoes differently, for different varieties, for different containers, for different packs, for different portions of the production area, for different purposes under § 948.23, or for any combination of the foregoing, during any period.

(3) Provide a method through rules and regulations issued pursuant to this subpart for fixing the size, capacity, weight, dimensions, or pack of the container, or containers, which may be used in the packaging or handling of potatoes, or both.

(4) Establish in terms of grades, sizes, or both, minimum standards of quality and maturity.

(b) Any regulation issued hereunder may be amended, modified, suspended, or terminated by the Secretary on recommendations by an area committee, or on other available information, to provide for

(1) Such changes in regulations found necessary by changes in supplies, demand, or prices;

(2) Minimum quantities which should be relieved of regulatory or administrative obligations; or

(3) Relief from regulations no longer tending to effectuate the declared policies of the Act.

(c) The Secretary shall notify each committee of each regulation recommended by it and issued pursuant to this section. The respective committee shall give reasonable notice thereof to handlers. No regulation, except when relieving limitations, shall become effective less than two days after issuance thereof.

§ 948.23 Handling for special purposes.

Upon the basis of recommendations and information submitted by an area committee, or other available information, the Secretary, whenever he finds that it will tend to effectuate the declared purposes of the Act, shall modify, suspend, or terminate requirements in effect pursuant to §§ 948.20 to 948.22, inclusive, or §§ 948.40 or 948.77, or any combination thereof, to facilitate handling of potatoes for

(a) Relief or charity;

(b) Livestock feed;

(c) Export;

(d) Seed;

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(e) Potatoes, other than certified seed, sold to a producer exclusively for planting within specific geographic limits;

(f) Manufacture or conversion into specified products;

(g) Other purposes recommended by the committees and approved by the Secretary.

§ 948.24 Safeguards.

(a) Each area committee, with the approval of the Secretary, shall prescribe adequate safeguards for potatoes handled pursuant to § 948.23 from entering trade channels other than those authorized by regulations and by such rules as may be necessary and incidental thereto.

(b) Such safeguards may include requirements that handlers or processors desiring to handle potatoes pursuant to § 948.23 shall:

(1) Apply for and obtain Certificates of Privilege from the area committee for handling potatoes affected or to be affected under the provisions of § 948.23;

(2) Obtain inspection as required by § 948.40, or pay the assessment levied pursuant to § 948.77, or both, except as modified pursuant to § 948.23 in connection with shipments made under any such certificate; and

(3) Furnish the committee such information, and execute or obtain execution of such documents, as the committee may require.

(c) An area committee may rescind or deny to any handler permission to handle potatoes pursuant to § 948.23 of this subpart if proof satisfactory to the committee is obtained that potatoes handled by him for a purpose stated in § 948.23 were handled contrary to the provisions of this subpart.

(d) The committee shall make reports to the Secretary, as requested, showing the number of applications for such certificates, the quantity of potatoes covered by such applications, the number of such applications denied and certificates granted, the quantity of potatoes handled under duly issued certificates, and such other information as may be requested.

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EXEMPTIONS

§ 948.28 Policy.

Any producer whose potatoes have been adversely affected by acts beyond the control or reasonable expectation of a prudent grower and who, by reason of any regulation issued pursuant to this part, is or will be prevented from shipping or having shipped during the then current marketing season, or a specific portion thereof, as large a proportion of his potato crop as the average proportion shipped or to be shipped during comparable portions of the season by all producers in his immediate area of production, may apply to the committee for exemptions from such regulations for the purpose of obtaining equitable treatment under such regulations.

§ 948.29 Procedure.

Rules and procedures for granting exemptions may be issued by the Secretary, upon recommendation of area committees. Such rules and procedures may provide for methods of determinations by area committees of average proportions of crops shipped or being shipped in respective areas or subdivisions thereof during any or all portions of a season, for processing applications for exemption, for issuing or denying certificates of exemption, for administrative compliance with certificates issued, for reports by handlers thereon, and for such other procedures as may be necessary to administration hereof.

§ 948.30 Granting exemptions.

An area committee may issue certificates of exemption to any qualified applicant who furnishes adequate evidence to such committee:

(a) That the grade, size, or quality of the applicant's potatoes have been adversely affected by acts beyond his control or reasonable expectations;

(b) That by reason of regulations issued pursuant to § 948.20 or § 948.22, the applicant will be prevented as a producer from shipping or having shipped as large a proportion of his production as the average proportion of production shipped by all producers in said applicant's immediate area of production during the season, or a specific portion thereof.